

KAZEROUNI LAW GROUP, APC
Ryan L. McBride, Esq. (SBN: 297557)
ryan@kazlg.com
Jonathan Gil, Esq. (SBN: 347431)
jonathan@kazlg.com
2221 Camino del Rio S, Suite 101
San Diego, California 92108
Telephone: (800) 400-6808
Facsimile: (800) 520-5523

Attorneys for Plaintiff
Thomas Doughty

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

THOMAS DOUGHTY,

Plaintiff,

v.

PELICAN INVESTMENT HOLDINGS,
LLC d/b/a AUTO SERVICE
DEPARTMENT

Defendant.

Case No.: 8:24-cv-01926-FWS-ADS

**Declaration of Jonathan Gil in
Support of Plaintiff's Motion for
Default Judgment Against Defendant
Pelican Investment Holdings, LLC
d/b/a Auto Service Department**

Date: January 15, 2026

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Courtroom: 10D, 10th Floor

Hon. Fred W. Slaughter





1 I, Jonathan Gil, hereby declare under penalty of perjury that the following is
2 true and correct:

- 3 1. I have personal knowledge of the following facts and, if called as a witness,
4 would testify as follows:
- 5 2. I am one of Plaintiff's co-counsel in this action and make this declaration in
6 support of Plaintiff Motion for Default Judgment.
- 7 3. On September 5, 2024, Plaintiff filed the instant action. *See* ECF No. 1.
- 8 4. On September 10, 2024, Plaintiff served Defendant a copy of the summons and
9 complaint in this action. *See* ECF No. 8.
- 10 5. On October 28, 2024, Plaintiff's counsel sent a letter to Defendant. The letter
11 is included as Exhibit A. It provides Defendant with the case name, number,
12 and a request for their response. Notably, the letter indicates Plaintiff's intention
13 to proceed with Default Judgment should Defendant choose to remain silent.
14 Plaintiff's counsel mailed this letter to Defendant's registered agent, principal
15 address, mailing address, and former principal address as provided by the
16 California Secretary of State.
- 17 6. On December 4, 2024, Defendant's counsel contacted our firm and requested
18 we stipulate to set aside the clerk's entry of default. Our firm agreed to the
19 stipulation.
- 20 7. On February 7, 2025, our firm sent Defendant's counsel a Notice of Deposition,
21 Requests for Admission, Interrogatories, and Requests for Production.
- 22 8. On March 11, 2025, Defendant's counsel requested an extension until March
23 21, 2025, to respond to Plaintiff's Discovery Requests. Our firm granted the
24 extension.
- 25 9. On March 21, 2025, Defendant's counsel requested a second extension until
26 March 28, 2025, to respond to Plaintiff's Discovery Requests. Our firm granted
27 the extension.
- 28 10. On April 8, 2025, our firm requested an update on the discovery responses.

1 Defendant's counsel asked for an additional 48 hours to follow-up.

2 11. On April 14, 2025, not having heard from Defendant's counsel, our firm sent
3 Defendant's counsel a letter explaining that "our office has not received any
4 responses or objections to [Plaintiff's] Request for Admissions, Special
5 Interrogatories, or Request for Production of Documents, Set One from your
6 client, Pelican Investment Holdings, LLC d/b/a Auto Service Department[.]"
7 The letter indicated that because Defendant missed the Fed. R. Civ. P. 36(a)(3)
8 deadline, "each matter contained within Plaintiff's Request for Admissions, Set
9 One are deemed admitted."

10 12. On May 27, 2025, I sent an email to Defendant's counsel explaining that
11 Plaintiff intends to file a Motion for Summary Judgment and requested to meet
12 and confer pursuant to L.R. 7-3. I followed up again on June 2, 2025.

13 13. On June 5, 2025, I spoke with counsel for Defendant. Defendant's counsel
14 conceded that the requests had not been responded to, and that the requests for
15 admission were deemed admitted pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 36(a)(3).

16 14. On July 3, 2025, Plaintiff filed his Motion for Summary Judgment. Plaintiff had
17 finalized the Statement of Uncontroverted Facts for filing concurrently with the
18 Motion. Unfortunately, the Statement did not get filed. Once our firm
19 discovered this error, we immediately filed the Statement.

20 15. Our firm has repeatedly attempted to establish lines of communication to either
21 settle or communicate about the case. These attempts have been unsuccessful.

22 16. Pursuant to L.R. 55-1, (a) default was entered against Defendant Pelican
23 Investment Holdings, LLC d/b/a Auto Service Department on November 12,
24 2024 (ECF No. 13) and again on August 26, 2025 (ECF No. 31); (b) default
25 had been entered originally in response to Plaintiff's Motion for Clerk's Entry
26 of Default (ECF No. 12) and subsequently in response to this Court's order on
27 Motion for Summary Judgment (ECF No. 30)—the pleadings associated with
28 default are Plaintiff's originally filed Complaint (ECF No. 1); (c) the defaulting

1 party is not a minor or incompetent person; (d) the Servicemembers Civil Relief
2 Act (50 U.S.C. App. § 521) does not apply; and (e) notice shall be served on
3 the defaulting party concurrently with the filing of this Motion and, because the
4 defaulting party has appeared in this case, in accordance with Fed. R. Civ. P.
5 55(b)(2) (“its representative must be served with written notice of the
6 application at least 7 days before the hearing.”).

7
8 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of
9 America and the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct and that this
10 declaration was signed on December 8, 2025, in San Diego, California.

11 Dated: December 8, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

KAZEROUNI LAW GROUP, APC

14 By: /s/Jonathan Gil
Jonathan Gil, Esq.
15 *Attorneys for Plaintiff*

